REMARKS

Reconsideration of the instant application is respectfully requested. The present amendment is responsive to the Office Action of February 7, 2006, in which claims 1-20 are presently pending. Of those, claims 6, 7, 9, 16, 17 and 19 are objected to as result of the informalities identified on page 2, paragraphs 2-3 of the Office Action. Claims 9, 10, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as set forth in paragraph 5 of the Office Action.

With regard to the art of record, claims 1-3 and 11-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2005/0091432 by Adams, et al. Claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Adams, in view of U.S. Patent 5,265,257 to Simcoe, et al. and U.S. Patent 5,941,967 to Zulian. Claims 6-8 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Adams, in view of Simcoe and Zulian, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0033490 by Gappisch, et al. Finally, claims 9, 10, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Adams, in view of Simcoe and Zulian, and further in view of Gappisch and U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0187112 by Potter, Jr. For the following reasons, however, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

As an initial matter, the Applicants note that although the electronic IDS and PTO-1449 IDS forms of the application are signed by the Examiner, the individual references are not initialed. Thus, Applicants respectfully request an initialed and signed copy of the IDS forms in the next communication from the PTO.

The title of the application has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, and thus it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification be

withdrawn. In addition, with regard to the claim objections, the present amendment has rendered the objections thereto moot.

However, with respect to the §112, first paragraph rejection of claims 9, 10, 19 and 20, the Applicants respectfully traverse the same for the reason that the specification adequately enables one skilled in the art to carry out the subject matter recited therein. Claim 9 as originally filed is reproduced below, along with reference characters from the specification to designate recited claim elements:

9.   The system of claim 4, wherein:

said at least one peripheral core device (core_a, core_b) is configured to communicate data to and from the SOC integrated circuit architecture through an associated external connection (output_a_1, output_a_2, output_b_1, output_b_2) for each of said first and second microprocessors (102a, 102b); and

said arbitration unit (106) further comprising external multiplexing circuitry (114) in communication with said at least one peripheral core device (core_a, core_b) and said external connections (output_a_1, output_a_2, output_b_1, output_b_2); and

said arbitration unit (106) further comprising an external buffer device (116) coupled between said external multiplexing circuitry (114) and said external connections (output_a_1, output_a_2, output_b_1, output_b_2).

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that the specification "does not reasonable provide enablement for coupling an external buffer device between external multiplexing circuitry and first and second processors." The Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to paragraph [0030] of the specification, which indicates that:

"In the example illustrated, *given a pair of processors and a pair of peripheral cores*, there are four external connections provided with the arbitration unit (output_a_1,

output_a_2, output_b_1, and output_b_2), as well as an external buffer device 116."
(emphasis added)

Thus, as provided in the specification, the four external connections represent a core connection from core A for each of processor 1 and processor 2, and a core connection from core B for each of processor 1 and processor 2. As such, adequate enablement exists, not only for coupling an external buffer device between external multiplexing circuitry and peripheral core devices, but also for coupling the external buffer device between the external multiplexing circuitry and first and second processors. Otherwise, Figure 6 would only illustrate two outputs – a and b. Instead, there are shown two core connections for each of two processors.

Because the claim language of cancelled claim 9 appears in amended claim 1, and the claim language of cancelled claim 19 appears in amended claim 11, Applicants respectfully submit that any §112, first paragraph rejections in this regard have been overcome.

With regard to the art of record, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of cancelled claims 3, 4, and 9. Correspondingly, claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the elements of cancelled claims 13, 14, and 19. In addition, claims 1 and 11 further recite that the peripheral core device is able to communicate, at any time, data to and from the SOC integrated circuit architecture. Claims 10 and 20 have been amended to more particularly point out that Support for these amendments is found at least in paragraphs [0029] and [0030] of the specification, which describes embodiment #4 illustrated in Figure 6. As such, claim 1 defines over the cited art.
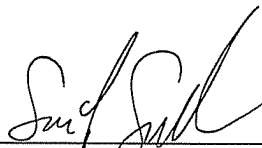
The Examiner relies on the Gappisch reference as discloses multiprocessor arrangements communicating data through an external output path, and external multiplexing circuitry. However, the external device shown in the figures of Gappisch is flash memory. Because flash memory is a response-based device, it is therefore incapable

9

of choosing <u>when</u> to send data to a requesting processor. This being the case, Gappisch therefore does not teach the peripheral core device being able to receive incoming external data at any time.

For the reasons outline above, the Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment places the application in condition for allowance. No new matter has been entered and no additional fees are believed to be required. However, if any fees are due with respect to this Amendment, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,
SERAFINO BUETI, ET AL.

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicants' Attorneys

By _____

Sean F. Sullivan
Registration No. 38,328
Customer No. 46428

Date: May 1, 2006
Address: 55 Griffin Road South, Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone: (860) 286-2929

10